

THE PATRIOT

HONORING WARRIORS FOR FREEDOM

Vol. 15, No. 44

Altus AFB, Okla.

Nov. 17, 2006

Inside:

CES wins two AETC awards Page 4



Staff Sgt. Samuel Morris, a heavy equipment craftsman with the 97th Civil Engineer Squadron's 'Dirt Boyz,' guides a forklift used to load a snow broom onto a 10-ton dump truck Wednesday. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph)

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Prep time...

Airman Mario Woods, 97th Services Squadron Solar Inn shift worker, cuts the plastic wrapper off a turkey for the Solar Inn's annual Thanksgiving Day banquet. The banquet is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Nov. 23. Unit commanders, first sergeants and their spouses will assist with the serving of the meal. The Thanksgiving Day meal is open to all active-duty military, active reserve, retirees and their families. (U.S. Air Force photo by Michael Fletcher)



Col. Carlton D. Everhart II
97th AMW commander

COMMANDER'S HOTLINE...

CALL 481-7566

The Commander's Hotline is a tool for everyone on base. I am sincerely interested in hearing your suggestions, comments or complaints.

If you haven't been able to resolve your concern through normal channels, please call me at 481-7566 or e-mail your comment to hotline@altus.af.mil. I'll look into it for you, and you'll receive a reply as soon as possible. Because complaints are best handled by responsible agencies, you should contact them first if you have a comment.

Those concerns with a wide impact may be published in *The Patriot*.

Fraud, Waste and Abuse, 481-6370
Security forces, 481-7444
Services activities, 481-7731
Civil engineer, 481-7621
Safety, 481-7233
Housing office, 481-7235
Inspector General, 481-6370
Base exchange, 481-7441
Commissary, 481-5810
Fitness center, 481-7153
Solar Inn, 481-6168
Chapel, 481-7485
Environmental Hotline, 481-7605
Military/civilian payroll, 481-6944
Tricare Hotline, 1-800-444-5445
Military equal opportunity, 481-7208

Letter from SECAF: Service before self

Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force

One of my greatest privileges as your Secretary is witnessing the selfless dedication on display by Airmen around the world. You consistently demonstrate your commitment to the Core Value of *Service Before Self*.

Wherever I look, Airmen are executing our mission – flying and fighting in Air, Space and Cyberspace. More than 30,000 Airmen are deployed around the world in support of 11 major operations and more than 62,000 Airmen are serving overseas.

Whether our Airmen are fighting the Global War on Terror, providing deterrence on the Korean peninsula, or bringing aid to communities devastated by natural disasters, they continue to perform wonders. Many continue to volunteer in their own, or nearby communities long after the headlines fade – they are all heroes.

Across all ranks and specialties, Airmen serve a higher cause than their own self-interest. Air Force Reserve C-130 crews



Secretary Wynne

serve the greater good of our citizens, fighting wildfires in Oregon, Idaho, and California. Airmen serve on KC-135s and E-3s over the skies of South America, supporting counter-drug operations.

Airmen serve deep in the mountains of Afghanistan, calling in A-10s and B-1s for air strikes in support of coalition troops. Airmen serve as America's silent sentries, maintaining the readiness of our Inter-Continental Ballistic Missiles deep in underground control centers across the heartland.

Air National Guardsmen serve in the skies over our homes, providing air defense patrols and alert forces ready at a

moment's notice. In the AOR, the service of Air Force medics and evacuation teams saves the lives of Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and their fellow Airmen. Whether on the tip of the spear supporting the mission with steadfast professionalism, all Airmen are equally committed to *Service Before Self* – defending our nation at the cost of great personal sacrifice. Together with your families, you selflessly embrace the spirit of service.

Upon entering the Air Force you were sworn in and took the first step to accepting our core values as a way of life.

Medal of Honor recipient, AIC John Levitow, explains it best in his quote etched forever in the Inscription Wall at our Air Force Memorial: "I have been recognized as a hero for my ten minutes of action over Vietnam, but I am no more a hero than anyone else who has served their country."

Service Before Self is more than a slogan: it is a moral imperative I see internalized daily in all of America's Airmen. It makes me ever proud to serve alongside you.

THE PATRIOT

The Patriot is published by the *Altus Times*, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 97th Air Mobility Wing.

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Deadline

Material for publication in *The Patriot* must be received by the public affairs office by noon, Friday, a week before desired publication. Call the 97th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs Office at 481-7759 or e-mail submissions to patriot@altus.af.mil.

Submissions may need to be edited for journalistic style and length. Letters to the editor are encouraged, as well as feedback about the newspaper and its content.

Advertising information may be obtained by calling the *Altus Times* at 482-1221.

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The Patriot Online

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Airman 1st Class Jennifer Flores

Airman Rebecca Dickens

Altus spotlight of the week

Staff Sgt. Victor Yanez

*NCOIC, Heavy Equipment
"Dirt Boy"*

97th Civil Engineer Squadron

Hometown: Lockhart, Texas

Joined Air Force: Sept. 26, 2000

Arrived at Altus: May 2003

Previous Assignment: Aviano AB, Italy

What you do: Maintain everything on the base that's not bolted down and run all the heavy equipment that's not contracted

Most rewarding aspect of your job:
Everyday there's something new

What do you do with your free time:
Play flag football with the Civil Engineer intramural team

Best day of your life: When my two-year-old son Isaac was born

Most influential person: My grandfather because he helped raise me, and he's one of the smartest men I've ever known



Training Scoreboard

Sorties Nov. 6 - 9

Aircraft	Sorties		Flying Hours		Mission Capable Rates	
	Sched	Actual	Sched	Actual	Goal	Actual
KC-135	49	49	248.1	237.4	80.0%	87.2%
C-5	13	13	56.0	52.0	65.0%	65.9%
C-17	42	42	218.6	214.3	78.0%	85.5%

Student totals Nov. 6 - 10

Student Qualification Course	Enrolled (FY06/07)	Grads (FY06/07)	Goal (FY06/07)
C-5 Pilot	10/21	243/4	264/66
C-5 Flight Engineer	18/5	84/0	178/50
C-5 Loadmaster	8/6	104/0	156/48
C-17 Pilot	68/98	713/9	850/919
C-17 Loadmaster	52/40	380/2	528/502
KC-135 Pilot	103/70	527/0	700/649
KC-135 Boom Operator	15/18	161/0	229/238
Basic Loadmaster	0/58	317/0	360/371
Basic Boom Operator	0/4	140/6	146/170
Basic Flight Engineer	9/18	131/0	265/96

Civil Engineers take two AETC awards

by Staff Sgt.
Monique Randolph
NCO in charge,
Public Affairs

The 97th Civil Engineer Squadron was recently awarded two 2006 Air Education and Training Command awards: Outstanding Civil Engineer Unit, Small Unit category; and the Colonel Frederick J. Riemer Award for the Readiness Flight.

The civil engineers will now compete at the Air Force level for both awards.

Outstanding Unit Award:

The Air Force Outstanding Civil Engineer Unit Award recognizes exemplary performance in the areas of expeditionary and installation engineering, environmental leadership, housing excellence, emergency services and exemplary achievements.

"This award is recognition from AETC tell-

ing the world that our civilian and military members are the best in this command, and we are eligible for competition to be the best civil engineers in the Air Force for a base of our size," said Lt. Col. Neil Wentz, 97th CES commander.

"Our members worked extremely hard over the past years making Altus Air Force Base facilities and infrastructure world class and the base of choice for AETC. Our heads are held up a little higher and we walk a little straighter than before, but we have many things left to do. This CE business never ends."

The 97th CES motto is, "It just wouldn't be without CE," Colonel Wentz said.

"We joke around about our motto, but on the serious side, it's very true," he said. "We would not have planes flying and students training without CE

keeping the runway in working order and the facilities livable and safe.

"Our mission statement brings it home by stating '...live, play and work...' We want all our facilities and infrastructure at the highest standards to live in, play in and work in," he said.

Colonel Frederick J. Riemer Award:

This annual award recognizes the readiness flight that demonstrates exemplary performance in support of the engineer readiness mission based on training, inspections, self improvement, contingency response and exercises.

"The young men and women led by a seasoned readiness veteran has a mission requirement mandatory to support the wing," Colonel Wentz said. "Disaster preparedness training for wing personnel, chemical warfare training, mobility

training and weapons of mass destruction training all come out of the Readiness Flight. Readiness prepares base personnel to sustain no matter what comes. No one is better at doing what they do than our Readiness Flight according to AETC — I agree with them."

"People in this office don't just do their jobs, they support the squadron and the local community," said Milton Chorn, chief of the Readiness Flight. "In my 20 years in the military and 23 years in civil service, I've never worked with a better team. They're just fantastic."

"They're all young, energetic people, and it shows. Their initiative, knowledge and team work ethic has brought us where we are today," he said. "Winning this award means someone else has recognized the efforts of this team."



Senior Airman Casey Sample helps Airman 1st Class Dominic Garcia suit up for a radiological monitoring exercise scenario. Airmen Sample and Garcia are both readiness technicians with the Readiness Flight, which was recently awarded the 2006 Air Education and Training Command Colonel Frederick J. Riemer Award. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Joshua DeMotts)

Air Force adopting new news-delivery method

by Senior Master Sgt.
Terry Somerville
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) — The ongoing reduction in the number of Air Force people will mean changes in the way people get Air Force news.

Public affairs staff members, who produce newspapers at most Air Force installations, are shifting their focus for news delivery

to the World Wide Web. Printed newspapers will still be published at most bases, but responsibility will move to civilian publishers.

"A Web-based information-delivery system provides a number of benefits," said Col. Michelle Johnson, director of Air Force Public Affairs. Among them: posting news releases in real time; providing access to home-station news from deployed locations; and using the

same delivery system at home and while deployed, the colonel said.

The new policy is being put into place over the next month. Air Force Public Affairs officials said guidelines for unit public affairs offices will be released soon.

A reduction of 200 positions in the 800-strong public affairs career field drives the change, but news will actually get to Air Force people faster under the new policy.

Public Affairs staffers and other news producers will instantly post stories, photographs and artwork to their unit's public Web site rather than waiting for a weekly publication to hit the streets.

"With the new Web management system, we can post content to Air Force Web sites within eight minutes," said Chief Master Sgt. Janice Conner, the Air Force Public Affairs enlisted career field manager. "This de-

creases the time between when an article is complete and when it's released from three to 10 days to within minutes."

Air Force newspapers have been published at many bases for more than 50 years. Civilian publishers print many of them under contract, using Air Force-generated content and keeping the advertising revenue.

See **News**, Page 15

Did you know...



(U.S. Air Force photo)

by Master Sgt. Rich Guinan
97th Air Mobility Wing historian

Did you know the KC-135 Cargo Trainer facility in Bldg. 190 is named after Tech. Sgt. Claude F. Arden, a boom operator who died in a training accident at Beale Air Force Base, Calif., Aug. 27, 1985?

Sergeant Arden was one of seven crewmembers killed after the KC-135A they were flying crashed near the end of the runway. Just prior to the crash, the number one engine struck the runway while a student copilot was practicing landings.

The engine caught fire, and while the instructor pilot regained control to execute an emergency landing, the aircraft stalled. All of the members of the crew were assigned to the 93rd Bomb Wing at Castle AFB, Calif. The facility was dedicated to Sergeant Arden during a Boom Operators Symposium in April 1998.

WARRIORS OF MERIT

AADD thanks...

Airmen Against Drunk Driving potentially saved the lives of 38 Airmen last weekend, bringing the total lives saved to 5033. AADD would like to thank the following volunteers:

Senior Airman Jared Wilgus,
97th AMW

Capt. William Parker, 97th
TRS

Tech. Sgt. Wade Bond, 97th
OSS

Senior Airman Joy Terral,

97th MDOS

Staff Sgt. Harry Pollock,
97th OSS

Airman 1st Class Kimberly
Wheeler, 97th TRS

97th SVS:

Senior Master Sgt. Glenn
Zimmerman, Tech. Sgt. Ed-

ward Gamboa, Staff Sgt.

Sabrena Gregory, Staff Sgt.

Amnesty Webb, Staff Sgt. Don

Cota, Senior Airman Dawn

Frehse, Senior Airman Jeffrey

Willson, Airman Janna Marier

What is your favorite Thanksgiving memory?



Shane Chapman

97th Maintenance Directorate
Tools/Parts Attendant

"Going to my Grandma and Grandpa's house back home in Keys, Okla., playing football and riding four wheelers."

Pamela Chapman

97th Operations Support
Squadron

Office Automation Secretary
"Every year is a great memory because we always get together with family in Aline, Okla."



Maj. Pamela Backeberg

97th Services Squadron
Commander

"When I was a child in Minnesota where it's really, really cold, we would huddle up close in a small house with lots of family, and eat to our hearts' content."



Chief Master Sgt. Kerry Saso

97th Training Squadron
AFRC/ANG Liaison

"Flying C-5s in support of the troops during Desert Storm; taking goods to them in the desert back in 1990."



Senior Airman Michael Wright

97th Communications Squadron
Airfield Systems Journeyman

"Eating pumpkin pie with my family in Pennsylvania after the Thanksgiving meal and then watching movies."



Daddy's home

Senior Airman Calvin Murphy, an engineering assistant with the 97th Civil Engineer Squadron, greeted his 7-month-old daughter, Anisa, for the first time Nov. 9. Airman Murphy was one of 27 CES troops to return from a deployment that day. The troops trickled in from morning to late evening following deployments to Balad Air Base, Iraq. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mercedes Crossland)



For those who served...

Senior Airman Ygnacio Ramirez, an air transportation journeyman with the 97th Logistics Readiness Squadron, placed a flag on the grave of a veteran Nov. 10. More than 60 members of the squadron showed up at the Altus Cemetery on

Veteran's Day to pay tribute to veterans buried there. Along with members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4876, the LRS troops placed 1,600 flags on the gravesites. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Brian Engle)

Farm City Week

by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph
NCO in charge, Public Affairs

One hundred military and civilian employees from Altus Air Force Base participated in this year's Farm City Week farm tours. The Altus Chamber of Commerce hosts the event every year to introduce members of the base to the local agri-business community.

The Chamber also hosted a free "Cowboy Barbecue" for tour participants.

During the tour, base members were given the opportunity to observe operations at a cotton gin, a cotton farm, and a peanut warehouse.

The first stop was the Altus Cotton Growers Gin, where Tom Buchanan, a member of the Altus Cotton Growers Cooperative, briefed the group on the life of cotton from planting to harvesting, and on how the cotton gin works.

Following the briefing, the group headed over to the gin, where they were able to observe the operations first hand.

Next, the group was off to Robbins Farming Operation,

where Jeff Lorah, farm manager, explained the farming seasons, and equipment used for planting and harvesting.

"The harvest season begins around Oct. 1, but the length of the season varies based on the rain," Mr. Lorah said. "We try to be finished by Thanksgiving."

After learning the inner workings of a cotton farming operation, the group headed for the next stop, Western Equipment.

With farmers as their guides, several tour participants drove farming tractors worth anywhere from \$90,000 to \$209,000.

The final location was the Altus Peanut Company. Area farmers send wet peanuts by the ton to the Peanut Company where they are dried and weighed before they are sent around the country to manufacturers to sell.

To return the favor, the base is scheduled to host members of the agri-business community on familiarization flights on a KC-135 and C-17 today.



Col. Carlton D. Everhart II, 97th Air Mobility Wing commander, speaks at the Farm/City Week luncheon. The Altus Chamber of Commerce holds Farm City Week annually to introduce the members of Altus Air Force Base to the agri-business sector of the community. This year's theme was "Farming, Flying & Community, the Pillars of Southwest Oklahoma!" (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Rebecca Dickens)



Airman 1st Class Natasha Kaminsky, a dental assistant with the 97th Medical Operations Support Squadron, feels the texture of cotton fresh out of the cotton gin. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph)



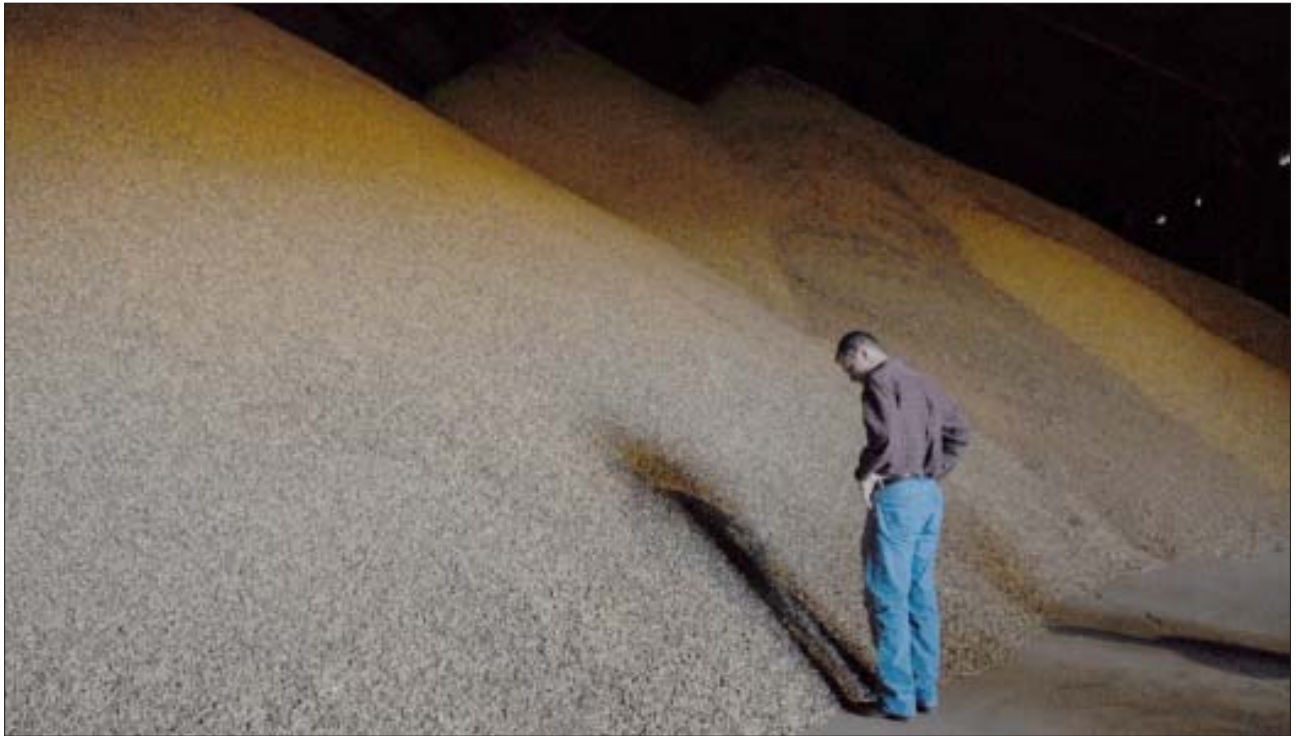
Jeff Lorah, the manager at Robbins Farming Operation, explains cotton farming operations to tour participants. Mr. Lorah has managed the operation for more than 12 years. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph)



Terri Mendonca, wife of Col. Michael Mendonca, 97th Air Mobility Wing commander, operates a tractor in Altus with the help of Walter Treadwell, chairman of the Altus Farm Bureau. The tractors range in price from \$90,000 to \$209,000. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph)



...rming Operation, talks to tour
...one of the machines used in
...h has worked for Robbins for
...to by Airman Rebecca Dickens)



Col. Michael Mendonca, 97th Air Mobility Wing vice commander, surveys the mountains of peanuts inside the warehouse at the Altus Peanut Company during the Farm City Week tour Nov. 8. The peanut company dries approximately 2,000 tons of Runner, Virginia and Spanish peanuts every year for farmers throughout the area. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Rebecca Dickens)



...e commander, drives a tractor from Western Equipment
...ltus Chamber of Commerce Agri-business Committee.
...ir Force photo by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph)



Airman Brian Fonseca, a dental technician with the 97th Medical Operations Support Squadron, and 58th Airlift Squadron C-17 pilot Maj. Ann Bunton watch closely as the massive gin at the Altus Cotton Grower's Gin, separates seeds from the cotton. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph)

Bargain Bin

Bargain Bin submissions must be e-mailed to patriot@altus.af.mil or hand-carried to 97th AMW/PA, Bldg. 1, Room 215 by noon, Friday to run the following Friday. Ads run for one week only, but may be resubmitted. Only ads for free pets are posted in the Bargain Bin. For more information, call 481-7700.

Garage Sale

612 Winsor Rd., Saturday. Moving sale: home decor, electronics, knick knacks, etc.

2233 Casa Alegre, Saturday. Pair large lion concrete statues, \$150; two pairs large concrete flower pots, \$60/\$70; several other statuary, some furniture.

Vehicles

2005 Kawasaki Ninja ZX636R, 2,300 miles, custom paint, two helmets included. PCSing to metro area, no desire to ride, \$6,300. 649-9114.

1990 Toyota 4 Runner V6, 3 liter engine, automatic, 4-wheel drive, power windows/locks, \$1,700. 379-4571.

2004 SUV fully loaded, new tires, has everything, pay off balance or \$30,500. Can be seen at Madison Trail Apartments. 649-9060 or 379-9041.

Craftsman LT100 18 HP riding mower, 42-inch cut with mulching attachment, 2 years old, great shape, \$700. 477-4299.

Miscellaneous

Large three-piece entertainment center, glass and wooden shelves, backlighting, nice, \$200 OBO. Moving and need to sell. 379-9098 or 695-2301.

Step 2 Kangaroo climber, \$40; Kid's indoor trampoline (w/balance bar), \$40; Little Tykes car, \$25; two Evenflo car seats, \$25 each or both for \$40; Eddie Bauer car seat, \$15. 379-9415.

Four each 15-inch aluminum mags, Chevy 5-bolt pattern, \$100; shortbed Chevy Regency running boards, \$100; RCA Colortrak console TV; twin-size bed with frame, \$50. 563-9400.

Light olive green carpet, 10.5 x 15 feet, with finished edges in excellent condition with custom cut foam pad, from pet- and smoke-free home, perfect for base housing, \$25. 477-3768.

Free Pet

Save me, last chance before I head to the pound. I'm a 6-year-old spayed, female rat terrier. I'm sweet, calm & cute. My owner's son is too rough with me and moving. 480-0575, between 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Chaplains' Corner

Sunday 9 a.m., Catholic mass (service), the recently named Prelate of the Holy See by the Pope, Father Jerry McManus, from the Chief of Chaplain's office to the Catholic Parish.

Sunday 10:30 a.m., Contemporary Worship Service with pipeliner students leading worship.

Sunday Noon, Protestant Parish annual Thanksgiving meal, come

enjoy a great meal in the Chapel Activity Room.

Nov. 30 4:30 p.m., Base Christmas Tree Lighting on the Parade Grounds.

Dec. 24 7 p.m., Christmas candle light service

Jan. 17 6:30 a.m., National Prayer Breakfast, Freedom Community Center, Chaplain Col. Stendahl speaker.

Religious Services

Protestant SUNDAY

■ 9:15 a.m. Sunday School (Annex, Bldg. 116). Prekindergarten - adult. (September - May)

■ 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service (Chapel, Bldg. 301). Communion is given on the first Sunday of each month.

■ 12:30 p.m. Youth Study (Annex)

WEDNESDAY

■ 7 p.m. Women's Study (Annex)

Jewish

All held at Ft. Sill Quarry Hill Chapel, 6008 Gordon St., 580-442-4405/4790.

FRIDAY

■ 6:15 p.m. Torah/Hebrew Study

■ 7 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat

Catholic (Base Chapel) SUNDAY

■ 8:30-9 a.m. Confession

■ 9 a.m. Mass

MONDAY-FRIDAY

■ 11:30-noon Daily confession

■ Noon Daily Mass

Korean Roman Catholic Mass

Held at the Frontier Chapel Center, 4121 Thomas Rd., 580-442-2701/2635.

Mass: Saturday, 1 p.m.

Islamic

All held at Ft. Sill Religious Operations Center, 2934 Marcy Road, 442-3302/3319.

FRIDAY

■ Midday Jumu'ah Prayer

SUNDAY

■ 8 a.m. Islamic Studies

Buddhist

Held at the Religious Support Operations Center, 2934 Marcy Rd., 580-442-3302/3319. Service is held Sunday at 3 p.m.

For information on faith groups not listed, call 481-7485 from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday or 481-6313 after hours.

Base Theater

Today

7 p.m.: The Marine (PG-13)

Saturday

2 p.m.: Everyone's Hero (G)

7 p.m.: Employee of the Month (PG-13)

Sunday

1:30 p.m.: The Marine (PG-13)

Subject to change without notice. For more information, call 481-7341.



ALTUS AFB
SERVICES
 Combat Support & Community Service

www.altuservices.com

Services Snapshot

Services Thanksgiving Holiday Hours of Operation



Services Facilities closed Nov. 23-26

- Club Altus
- Youth Center
- Auto Hobby
- Wood Hobby
- Embroidery Shop
- May's Lounge
- Child Development Center
- Frame & Engraving Shop
- Outdoor Recreation



Charlie's Lounge...Closed Nov. 23, 24, 25
Open Nov. 26 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Windy Trails Golf Course...Closed Nov. 23

Galaxy Lanes...Closed Nov. 23
Open Nov. 24 & 25 12 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Galaxy Grill...Closed Nov. 23
Open Nov. 24 & 25 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Solar Inn

Thanksgiving Day

Midnight: 11 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Breakfast: 6:30 a.m. - 8 a.m.

Lunch: 11p.m. - 1 p.m.

Dinner: 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

You Asked... We Listened... Here it is!

ALTUS AFB
SERVICES
 Combat Support & Community Service

News, from Page 4

A civilian publisher can continue to produce a newspaper for a base, but no longer under contract with the Air Force. The publisher will pull content from the base's public Web site and other sources.

The Altus Air Force Base Public Affairs Office has already begun to put the policy into practice. The last weekly issue of *The Patriot* newspaper will be published Dec. 22.

"We are in the process of modifying our current weekly base newspaper contract to a monthly publication," said Jim Weslowski, 97th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs chief.

"Our manning has been cut like most other Public Affairs shops. There simply is no one left to produce a weekly paper. There have been mixed reactions around the base when readers learn the paper is going away.

"As we developed the Public Affairs strategies for Altus we decided to produce a monthly newspaper starting the last Friday in January for one year. Our web-based information delivery system is now up and running at <http://www.altus.af.mil>," he added.

The new news-delivery method is mirroring what civilian news media are already doing. More people are turning to the Internet for their news, and fewer Air Force people are pick-

ing up their base newspapers. Surveys show the number of people who read every issue fell from 57 percent in 1994 to 38 percent in 2004.

Another avenue for information will be the newly redesigned Commander's Access Channel, Cable 65. It is in the process of coming back on line after a \$20K upgrade.

The new equipment will integrate local information, Air Force videos and the Pentagon Channel News Network. It can be viewed in base housing and offices with cable connections, Mr Weslowski said.

The policy was developed by a working group using Air Force Smart Operations 21 principles. The group was chartered by Air Force Public Affairs to determine the best way to deliver Air Force news in view of personnel reductions.

The group determined that each Air Force newspaper cost around 40 man-hours per week in page design and approval, making newspaper production a target for work savings. Eliminating the weekly product would allow a news staff to devote time to producing more and better news coverage, the group con-

cluded.

"The beauty of base-level online news is the timeliness and worldwide accessibility of information," Chief Conner said. "Combine the ability to merge the multimedia capabilities of photographs, streaming video, audio news and features, plus graphics and links to other Air Force features, and we have a true multimedia experience all in one source — the wing commander's number one internal-information tool."

(Information localized by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph, 97th AMW/PA NCOIC)

View
THE PATRIOT
HONORING WARRIORS FOR FREEDOM
online at
<http://www.altus.af.mil>

Base Paper

The Patriot will not be published Nov. 24. Any submissions for the Bargain Bin or other sections of the base newspaper sent in by noon Nov. 24 will be included in the following edition of *The Patriot* to be published Dec. 1. For more information, call 481-7700.

Commissary holiday hours

The Altus Air Force Base Commissary will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday. The Commissary will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.

Coffee break

The Armed Services YMCA will hold a coffee break social for all enlisted spouses from 9 to 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, at the Freedom Community Center. Cappuccino, lattes, cookies and cakes will be provided. Preschool-age children are welcome. The ASYMCA will also provide transportation for those who need it. For more information or to sign up, call 481-6761. To sign up for transportation, call 481-6523 Monday.

Job announcement

The Base Chapel is accepting bids for the position of Protestant Music Worship Leader, with performances to begin Dec. 1 and last for a period of 12 months. Resumes will be reviewed and interviews conducted Nov. 27-28 for this Chapel

Tithes and Offerings Fund Non-Personal Service Agreement. Anyone interested should submit a resume and separately sealed bid for rate of pay per hour. A Statement of Work is available at the Chapel. The contract will be awarded by close of business Nov. 29. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Scott Redeen or Chaplain (Capt.) William Hoggatt, 481-7485.

Special duty

The Air Education and Training Command Special Duty Briefing Team is scheduled to conduct a briefing at 8:45 a.m. Nov. 29 in the Freedom Community Center's Chameleon Room. The team will brief on all aspects of special duty opportunities for becoming Air Force recruiters or Air Force military training instructors. Airmen 1st class with at least 24 months time in service through master sergeants with less than 17 years total active federal military service are invited to attend. For more information, call Master Sgt. Steve Crawford, 481-6649.

Warrior stories

The next 12 O'clock High Warrior Story is scheduled for noon Dec. 4 at Club Altus. The speaker will be Staff Sgt. Walter Shutler from the 97th Civil Engineer Squadron. Sergeant Shutler was deployed to Afghanistan from May to September 2006. Guests should proceed through the food line and bring their food to the ballroom prior to the start time.

Hearts Apart Thanksgiving

Hearts Apart will hold a Thanksgiving dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. today at the Freedom Community Center. For more information, call 481-6761.

HAZMART free issue

HAZMART, formerly called the HAZMAT Pharmacy, offers a program where base employees can discard leftover household chemicals. HAZMART is located in Bldg. 228, Rm. 140 and is open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Base organizations can also get free cleaning items from HAZMART. Authorization for office use can be obtained at the Environ-

mental Safety Office colocated with HAZMART. For more information, call 481-7728.

Veterans' benefits

The Airman and Family Readiness Flight is scheduled to hold Veterans' Benefits Counseling for retirees, veterans and their families Monday and Nov. 27. Information will be available on disability claims, education benefits, records location and more. Counseling will be available by appointment only. For more information or to make an appointment, call 481-6761.

Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop, located in Bldg. 39, is scheduled to hold a \$3 bag sale from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. today and Tuesday. The Thrift Shop is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Tuesday and Friday. For more information, call 481-7317.

Troops to Teachers

The Airman and Family Readiness Flight is scheduled to host "Troops to Teachers" by appointment today for members interested in becoming teachers in the civilian community. An Oklahoma representative will cover information on eligibility, referral and registration. For more information or to sign up, call the Airman and Family Readiness Flight, 481-6761.

Job search

A workshop for spouses seeking work in Altus is scheduled for 1 to 3 p.m. Monday in Room 1211 of Bldg. 52. For more information or to sign up, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center, 481-6761.

Smooth move

A preplanning briefing for those preparing to

relocate is scheduled for 8 to 10 a.m. Nov. 28 at Family Services, Bldg. 39. Presenters from finance, legal, traffic management office, housing and more. For more information or to sign up, call 481-6761.

Small business

The Oklahoma Small Business Development Center will provide assistance to individuals seeking to go into business. The seminar is scheduled for 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday in Bldg. 52, Room 1211. This month's theme is "Checklist for Going Into Business." For more information or to sign up, call 481-6761.

Altus Public Web

The new Altus Public Website is now "live" at <http://www.altus.af.mil>. View the latest base, command and Air Force news, as well as the most recent edition of the base newspaper online.

Sports shorts

Basketball fundamentals

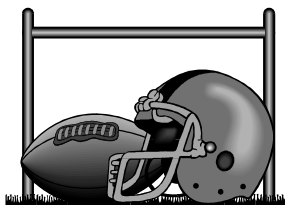
The Fitness Center is offering a basketball fundamentals class for adults from 5 to 6 p.m. Fridays at the Fitness Center.

Fitness Center personnel will teach the basic concepts of shooting, dribbling,

passing, rebounding and defense. For more information, call Senior Airman Troy Hoover, 481-7440.

Abs class

The Fitness Center is offering a free abs class from 5 to 6 p.m. every Monday and Thursday. For more information, call 481-7153.



Standings

(as of Nov. 15)

Team	W-L
CPTS/SVS	7-0
SFS/CS	6-1
OSS	5-2
CES	4-3
LRS	3-4
A-TEAM	3-4
54/55 ARS	1-6



Catch me if you can...

A-TEAM runner, Donald "Stunna" Cathey, tries to slip past 97th Logistics Readiness Squadron safety, Trajen Chastain, during the A-TEAM vs. LRS flag football game Wednesday. This was the final game of the regular season for intramural flag football. After maintaining the lead throughout the game, LRS defeated A-TEAM, 19-7. LRS and A-TEAM will enter the Base Championship Playoffs, scheduled for Nov. 27-29. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph)

Flag Football Playoff Schedule

